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Scots leid

Scots (or "Lallans", a poetic spellins for *lawlands*, Scots Gaelic: *Beurla Ghallta/Albais*) is a Wast Germanic leid o the Anglic varietie that's spaken on the Lawlands an Northren Isles o Scotland an en tha stewartrie o Ulster en Ireland (whaur it's kent as "Ulster-Scots", "Scotch", or "Ullans"). En maist airts, it's spaken anent tha Scots Gaelic an Inglis leids.

Up til tha 15t yeirhunder *Scottis* (modren furm *Scots*) wis the name o "Gaelic", the Celtic leid o th' aunshint Scots. Thaim that bruikit Scots cried tha Gaelic *Erse* (meinin *Irish*). Tha Gaelic o Scotland is nou maistlì cried Scots Gaelic an is yit spaken bi sum en tha wastren Scots Hielands an ilands. Fer tha maist pairt, Scots cums fae tha Northumbrian kyn o Anglo-Saxon (Auld Inglis), tho wi a litil influenss fae th' Auld Norse bi waa o tha Vikings, tha Dutch an Laich Saxon throoch troke wi (an incummers fae) tha laich kintras, an tha Romance bi waa o kirk an legal Laitin, Anglo-Norman an syn Pairisian French cause o th' Auld Alliance.

Anglian spikkers wer weil staiblisht in sooth-eist Scotland bi tha 7t yeirhunder. In tha 13t yeirhunder Norman launainers an thair reteiners, speakin Northumbrian Middil Inglis, were bade tae cum an sattil bi tha Keeng. Scots kyth'd fer tha first tym en scrieved form en tha mids o tha 14t yeirhunder an didnae differ mukkil fae ither northren Inglis byleids. Th' Anglian leid o Scotland gra an its ain sinsyn. Bi tha lat 15t yeirhunder tha sicht fowk haed o tha differs wi tha leid spaken faurder sooth cam til tha fore an Scots-spikkin Scots begoud tae crie thair leid "Scots". Scots haes lend-wirds fae tha fak thit tha Scots fowk haed contak wi Gaelic spikkers. Thair lend-wirds is fer ordinair anerlì fer geographical an cultural hings, sik as *clan* an *loch*. Lyk onì leivin leid, Scots haes chynged ae bittie ower tha yeirs, tho it haes arguablì stey'd naurer til its Anglo-Saxon springheid than Inglis. Monie Scots wirds hae becum pairt o the Inglis ava: *flit, greed, eerie, cuddle, clan, stob*.

En Scotland's census o 2011, ae speir on Scots wis speired.

Scots	
(*Braid*) *Scots*, *Lallans*	
Native tae	Unitit Kinrick, Republic o Ireland
Region	Scotland: Scots Lawlands, Northren Isles, Caithness, Arran an Cammeltoun Ulster (Ireland): Coonties Doun, Antrim, Derry an Donegal
Native speakers	110,000–125,000 (1999–2011)[1] 1.5 million L2 speakers.[2] In the 2011 census, respondents indicatit that 1.54 million (30%) are able tae speak Scots.[3]
Leid faimily	Indo-European ▪ Germanic ▪ Wast Germanic ▪ Anglo-Frisie ▪ Anglic ▪ **Scots**
Early forms	Auld Inglis ▪ Middle Inglis ▪ Early Scots ▪ Middle Scots
Dialects	Central Soothren Ulster Northern Insular
Writin seestem	Laitin
Offeecial status	
Offeecial leid in	*None* — Classeefied aes ae *"tradeetional leid"* bi the Scots Govrenment.

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Scrievid Scots

Monie writers nou evyts apostrofies whaur thay ar thocht tae shaw letters thit's "missin" fae Inglis (the apologeteec apostrophe). Sikna letters niver wer missin en Scots at aw. Fur exemple, en the twalt yeirhunder, Barbour spelt the Scots cognate o *taken* as 'tane'. Haein been nae *k* en the wird fer mair than 700 yeir, shawin the want o't wi aen apostrofie coud be caa'd specious. The modren speelin is for ordinair 'taen'. Vouel nummers is fae Aitken n the foneteecs is en IPA. Maugre the establisht tradeetional speelin conventions described ablo, durin the twantiet centuair ae wheen o propones fer speelin reform wis pitten forrit. Commentin on thus, John Corbett (2003: 260) writes thit "devisin ae normativ ortografee fer Scots haes been waen o the grattest linguestic hobbies o the past centuair." N writin aneat the affcome o thon en *Lallans* 57, Caroline Macafee merkit that speelin reform "haes had the effeck o caain doun the kynd-o-a staudartisation that aareadie exeestit" n that "Speelin haes gotten tae be ae free-fer-aw, wi the tradeetional model bemeanit, n nae populair replacement" leadin til mair speelin variation, nae less.

Consonants

Maist consonants is fer ordinair soondit sic n sae as en Inglis bit:

- **c**: /k/ or /s/, as en Inglis.
- **ch**: /x/,[6] **gh** an aw. Medial 'cht' micht be /ð/ in Northren dialects. *loch*, *nicht*, *dochter*, *dreich*, etc. Seemilar til the German "Na**ch**t".
- **ch**: waird ineetial or whaur it follaes 'r' /tʃ/. *airch*, *mairch*, etc.
- **ck**: at the end o a silable[7] n whan intervocaleec[8] efter ae cuttie vouel e.g. *bick*, *geck*, *muckle*, *ruck*, etc.
- **gn**: /n/. In Northren dialects /gn/ micht kythe.[9]
- **kn**: /n/. In Northren dialects /kn/ or /tn/ micht kythe.[9] *knap knee*, *knowe*, etc.
- **ng**: is aye /ŋ/.[10]
- **nch**: fer ordinair /nʃ/.[11] *brainch*, *dunch*, etc.
- **r**: /r/ or /ɹ/ is pronoonced in aw positions,[12] i.e. rhoteeclie.
- **s** or **se**: /s/ or /z/.[13]
- **t**: micht be ae glottal stap atween vouels or waird final.[9] En Ulster dentalised soondins micht kythe an aw, even fer 'd'.
- **th**: /ð/ or /θ/ as is Inglis. En Mid Northren varieties n intervocallic /ð/ micht be soondit /d/.[14] Initial 'th' en *thing*, *think* and *thank*, etc. micht be /h/.[15]
- **wh**: fer ordinair /ʍ/, aulder /xʍ/.[6] Northren byleids haes /f/ an aw.[15]
- **wr**: /wr/ mair aften /r/ bit micht be /vr/ en Northern byleids.[15] *wrack*, *wrang*, *write*, *wrocht*, etc.
- **z**: /jɪ/ or /ŋ/, micht kythe en som wirds aes ae substitute fer the aulder <ȝ> (yoch). Fer example: *brulzie*, *gaberlunzie* n the names *Menzies*, *Finzean*, *Culzean*, *Mackenzie* etc. (Aes aen affcome o the want o edducation in Scots, *Mackenzie* is nou generally soondit wi ae /z/ follaein the perceeved soondin o the scrieved form, aes mair controversial is whiles *Menzies*.)

Seelent letters

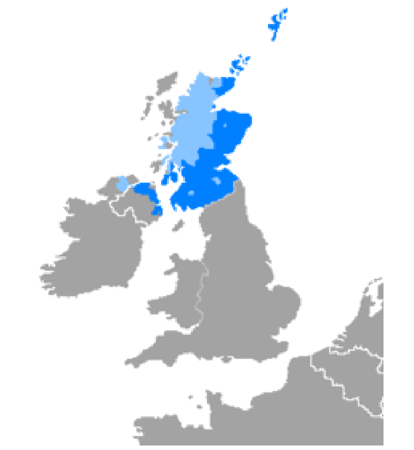
- The wird final 'd' in **nd** n **ld**[16] bit aften soodit in derived forms. Whiles jist 'n' n 'l' or "n" n 'l" e.g. *auld* n *haund* etc., aes en the Dens leid.
- 't' en medial **cht** ('ch' = /x/) n **st** n afore final **en**[17] e.g. *fochten*, *thristle* n the 't' in *aften* etc. an aw., as in Inglis.
- 't' en wird final **ct** n **pt**[17] bit aften soondit en derived forms e.g. *respect* n *accept* etc.

Vouels

Fer ae histereecal luikower see the Phonologeecal histerie o Scots.

The vouel seestem o Scots (in IPA):[18]

	— Classeefied aes ae *"regional or minoritie leid"* unner the European Chairter fer Regional or Minoritie Leids, ratified bi the Unitit Kinrick in 2001. — Classeefied aes ae *"tradeetional leid"* bi *The Noarth/Sooth Buird o Leid*.
Recognised minority leid in	Unitit Kinrick (Scotland an Northren Ireland)
Regulatit bi	— Scotland: Nane, altho the *Dictionar o the Scots Leid* carries muckle authoritie n the Scots Govrenment's *Partnership for a Better Scotland* coalition agreement (2003) promises "support".. — Ireland: Nane, altho the cross-border *Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch*, established aes aen ootcome o the *Guid Friday Greeance*, promotes uissage.
Leid codes	
ISO 639-2	`sco (https://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/langcodes_name.php?code_ID=392)`
ISO 639-3	`sco`
Linguasphere	`52-ABA-aa (varieties: 52-ABA-aaa to -aav)`



Auries whaur the Scots leid wis spoken in the 20t centuair[4][5]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8a	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	1. Generally merges wi vouels 2, 4 or 8.
cuttie /əi/ lang /aɪ/	/i/	/e, i/[1]	/e/	/o/	/u/	/ø/[2]	/eː/	/əi/	/oe/	/əi/	/iː/	/ɑː, ɔː/	/ʌu/[3]	/ju/	/ɪ/	/ɛ/	/ɑ, a/	/ɔ/[4]	/ʌ/	2. Merges wi vouels 1 an 8. in central dialects and vowel 2 in Northren dialects. Also /(j)u/ or /(j)ʌ/ afore /k/ an /x/ dependin on dialect. 3. Vocalisation tae /o/ micht kythe afore /k/. 4. Antrin mergers wi vouel 5.

En Scots, vouel length is fer ordinair condeetiont bi the Scots Vouel Lenth Rule. Wairds that differ jist ae bittie en soondin fae Scots Ingils is fer ordinair spelt aes en Ingils. Ither wairds micht be spelt the same wa bit differ en soondin, fer example: *aunt*, *swap*, *want* n *wash* wi /a/, *bull*, *full* v. n *pull* wi /ʌ/, *bind*, *find* n *wind* v., etc. wi /ɪ/.

- The onstrest vouel /ə/ micht be shawn bi onie vouel letter.
- **a** (vowel 17): fer ordinair /ɑ/, aften /ɑː/ en sooth wast n Ulster byleids,[19] bit /aː/ en Northren byleids. Maurk final *a* (vouel 12) en *awa*, *twa* an *wha* micht be /ɑː/, /ɔː/, /aː/ or /eː/ an aw depending on the byleid.[20]
- **au**, **aw** (vouel 12) /ɑː/ or /ɔː/ en Soothren, Central n Ulster byleids bit /aː/ in Northren bileids, wi *au* fer ordinair in medial poseetions[21][22] n *aw* in final poseetions.[21] Sometimes **a** or **a'** representin L-vocalisation.[23][24] The digraph **aa** kythes an aw, speciallie in scrieved representations o the (/aː/) soondin in Northren n Insular byleids.[22] The cluster 'auld' micht be /ʌul/ in Ulster an aw, e.g. *aw*, *cauld*, *braw*, *faw*, *snaw*, etc.
- **ai** (vouel 8) en ineetial n medial poseetions[25] n **a**(consonant)**e** [26] (vowel 4). The graphemes **ae**[25] (vouel 4) n **ay** (vouel 8) fer ordinair in final poseetions.[25][27] Aw generallie /e(ː)/. Aften /ɛ/ afore /r/. The merger o vouel 8 wi 4 haes resultit in the digraph *ai* occurrin en some wairds wi vouel 4 n *a*(consonant)*e* occurrin in some wairds wi vouel 8, e.g. *saip*, *hale*, *ane*, *ance*, *bane*, etc. n waird final *brae* n *day* etc. The digraph *ae* kythes fer vouel 7 an aw en *dae*, *tae* v. an *shae*.[27] En Northren byleids the vouel en the cluster 'ane' is aften /i/[28] n efter /w/ n daurk /l/ the soondin /əi/ micht kythe.[29] En Sooth Scots n monie Central n Ulster varieties *ae*, *ane* n *ance* micht be soondit /jeː/, /jɪn/ n /jɪns/ aften scrieved *yae*, *yin* n *yince* en byleid writin.
- **ea**,[30] **ei**[31] (vouel 3), haes generallie merged wi /i(ː)/ (vouel 2) or /e(ː)/ (vouel 4 or 8) dependin on the by leid. /ɛ/ micht kythe afore /r/. En Northren varieties the soondin micht be /əi/ efter /w/ an /ʍ/ n en the faur north /əi/ micht kythe en aw environments.[32] *deid*, *heid*, *meat*, *clear* etc.
- **ee**[33] (vouels 2 an 11), **e**(Consonant)**e**[34] (vouel 2). Whiles **ei** n **i.e.** wi *ei* fer ordinair afore *ch* (/x/), bit en ae few ither wairds an aw, n *ie* fer ordinair afore *l* an *v*. The soondin is fer ordinair /i(ː)/ bit en Northren varieties micht be /əi/ efter /w/ n /ʍ/.[32] Final vouel 11 (/iː/) micht be /əi/ en Southren byleids.[35] e.g. *e*, *een*, *speir* , *steek*, *here*, etc. The digraph *ea* kythes en ae few wairds lyk *sea* n *tea* an aw.
- **e**[36] (vouel 16): /ɛ/. *bed*, *het*, *yett*, etc.
- **eu**[37][38] (vouel 7 afore /k/ an /x/ see *ui*): /(j)u/ or /(j)ʌ/ dependin on dialect. Whiles *u*(consonant)*e*.[39] Whiles *u* phonetically an *oo* efter Staundart Ingils kythes an aw, e.g. *beuk*, *eneuch*, *keuk*, *leuk*, *teuk* etc.

- **ew** (vouel 14): /ju/. En Northren bileids a ruit final 'ew' micht be /jʌu/. *few*, *new*, etc.
- **i**[40] (Vouel 15): /ɪ/, but aften varies atween /ɪ/ an /ʌ/ specially efter 'w' an 'wh'.[41] /æ/ kythes en Ulster an aw afore voiceless consonants. *big*, *fit*, *wid*, etc.
- **i**(consonant)**e**, **y**(consonant)**e**,[42] **ey** (vouels 1, 8a an 10): /əi/ or /aɪ/. 'ay' is fer ordinair /e/ bit /əi/ in *ay* n *aye*. En Dundee it is ae kenspeckle /ɛ/.
- **o**[43] (vouel 18): /ɔ/ bit aften mergin wi vouel 5 (/o/) aften speelt phoneteeclie *oa* in byleid speelins lyk *boax* (box), *coarn* (corn), *Goad* (God)*joab* (job) n *oan* (on) etc.[44]
- **oa**[45] (vouel 5): /o/.
- **oi**, **oy** (vouel 9)
- **ow**,[46] **owe** (ruit final), seendle **ou** (vouel 13): /ʌu/. Afore 'k' vocalisation til /o/ micht kythe speciallie en wastren n Ulster byleids. *bowk*, *bowe*, *howe*, *knowe*, *cowp*, *yowe*, etc.
- **ou** the ordinair leeterar speelin[47] o vouel 6. Whiles **u**(consonant)**e** en some wairds: /u/ the foregane aften representit bi **oo**, ae 19t centuair lend fae Staundairt Ingils.[48] Ruit final /ʌu/ micht kythe en Soothren byleids. *cou*, *broun*, *hoose*, *moose* etc.
- **u**[49] (vouel 19): /ʌ/. *but*, *cut*, etc.
- **ui**, the ordinair leeterar speelin[50] o vouel 7 (binna afore /k/ an /x/ see **eu**), the speelin *u*(consonant)*e* whiles kythed, speciallie afore nasals,[50] n **oo** fae the speelin o Staundairt Ingils cognates: /ø/ in conservative byleids. In pairts o Fife, Dundee north Aintrim /e/. In Northren byleids fer ordinair /i/ bit /wi/ efter /g/ n /k/ aften speelt *ee* in byleid writin, n /u/ an aw afore /r/ en some airts e.g. *fuird*. Mid Doun n Donegal byleids haes /i/. En central n north Doun byleids merger wi vouel 15 (/ɪ/) occurs whan cuttie n vouel 8 (/eː/) whan lang, aften scrieved *ai* en byleid writin, e.g. *buird*, *buit*, *cuit*, *fluir*, *guid*, *schuil*, etc. En central byleids *uise* v. an *uiss* n. (use) is [jeːz] an [jɪs].

Some graimmar featurs

The definit airtikil

The is bruikit afore the names o saisons, days o the week, monie nouns, illnesses, tredds, occupations, sciences n acadeemic subjeks. It's aften bruikit in stead o the indefinit airtikil n instad o a possesseev pronoun n aw: *the hairst*, *the Wadensday*, *awa til the kirk*, *the nou*, *the dei*, *the haingles*, *the Laitin*, *The deuk ett the bit breid*, *the wife* etc.

Nouns

Nouns fer ordinair eiks –(*e*)*s* fer the plural bit some irraigulair plurals kith: *ee*/*een*, *cauf*/*caur*, *horse*/*horse*, *cou*/*kye*, *shae*/*shuin*. Nouns o meisur an quantitie byds the same en the plural *fower fit*, *twa mile*, *five pund*, *three hunnerwecht*. Raigular plurals incluid *laifs*, *leafs*, *shelfs* n *wifes*, etc.

Dimeenuteeves

Dimeenuteeves wi *–ie*, *burnie* (*wee burn*), *feardie*/*feartie*, *gamie*, *kiltie*, *postie*, *wifie*, *rhodie*, an wi *ock*, *bittock*, *playock*, *sourock* n Northren *–ag*, *bairnag* (*wee bairn*), *Cheordag*, *-ockie*, *hooseockie*, *wifeockie*, baith is influenced bi the Scots Gaelic dimeenuteeve *-ag*.

Modal verbs

The modal verbs *mey*, *ocht tae*, and *sall* isna aften bruikit in Scots n this is histereec, bit is whiles still foond in anglifie'd leeterair Scots. *Can*, *shid*, n *will/wul* is the prefer'd Scots maks. Scots employs doobel modal maks *He'll no can cum the day*, *A micht cud cum the morn*, *A uised tae cud dae it, but no nou*.

Praisent tense o verbs

The praisent tense o verbs ends en *–s* en aw persons n nummers cept whan a singil personal pronoun is nex til the verb, *Thay say he's ower wee*, *Thaim that says he's ower wee*, *Thir lassies says he's ower wee* etc. *Thay'r cummin an aw* bit *Five o thaim's cummin*, *The lassies? Thay'v went* bit *Ma brakes haes went*. *Thaim that cums first is ser'd first*. *The trees growes green en the simmer*.

Wis micht can tak the steid o *were*, but na widdershins: *Ye were*/*wis thaur*.

Past tense o verbs

The raigulair past form o the verb is –(*i*)*t* or –(*e*)*d*, gaun bi the aforegaun consonant or vouel *hurtit*, *skelpit*, *Mendit*, *kent*/*kenned*, *cleant*/*cleaned*, *skreived*, *telt*/*tauld*, *dee'd*. Some verbs haes kenspeakle maks *greet*/*grat*/*grutten*, *fesh*/*fuish*/*fuishen*, *lauch*/*leuch*/*lauchen*, *gae*/*gaed*/*gane*, *gie*/*gied*/*gien*, *pit*/*pat*/*pitten*, *git*/*gat*/*gotten*.

Wird order

Scots aften haes tha wird order *He turnt oot tha licht* an na *He turnt tha licht oot* an *Gie me it* an na *Gie it til me*.

Antrin verbs is aften uised progressive *He wis thinkin he wad tell her*, *He wis wantin tae tell her*.

Verbs o motion micht be drappit afore aen adverb or adverb phrases o motion *Ah'm awa til ma bed*, *That's me awa hame*, *Ah'll intil tha hoose an see him*.

Partecipils gaes til tha end o tha clause mair aften than in Inglis whaur chynge o state is impleid (pairtéculair in Ulster): *He's awfu auld gettin*, *Ah hae ma siller chynged*.

Ordinal nummers

Ordinal nummers ends wi *–t seicont*, *fowert*, *fift*, *saxt* etc. *first*, *Thrid*/*third*.

Adverbs

Adverbs fer ordinair taks the same mak aes the verb ruit or adjecteeve specialie efter verbs. *Haein ae real guid day*. *She's gey fauchelt*. Adverbs is shaped wi *–s*, *-lies*, *lins*, *gate*(*s*) an *wey*(*s*) *– whyls*, *mebbes*, *brawlies*, *geylies*, *aiblins*, *airselins*, *hauflins*, *hidlins*, *maistlins*, *awgates*, *ilkagate*, *oniegate*, *ilkawey*, *onywey*(*s*), *endweys*, *fit weys*.

Subordinate clauses

Verbless subordinate clauses is brocht en wi, *n* pittin ower surpreese or skunner *She haed tae walk the hale length o the road n her sieven month pregnant*, *He telt me tae rin n me wi ma sair leg*.

Negation

Negation is pitten ower bi bruikin the adverb *na*, en the North Eist *nae*, as in *Ah'm na cummin*, or bi bruikin the suffix *–na* (soondin lippens oan byleid), aes in *"A dinnae ken"*, *Thay canna cum* n *We coudna hae telt him*. The uiss wi *na* is fer ordinair taen foreby *–na* wi contractabil auxiliair verbs lyk *–ll* fer *will*, or en ay nae speirins wi onie auxiliair *He'll na cum* n *Did he na cum?*

Reelateeve pronoon

The reelateeve pronoon is *that* (*'at* is anither mak borraed fae the Norse bit it can cum aboot bi contraction) fer aw persons n nummers, bit micht be drappit *Thaur's na monie fowk* (*that*) *byds en that glen*. The anglifie'd maks *wha*, *wham*, *whase*, n the auld-farrant *whilk* is j ist leeterair pensfuness; *whilk* is alanerlie bruikit eftir ae statement *He said he'd tint it*, *whilk wis na whit we wantit tae hear*. The possesseeve cums aboot bi eikin '*s* or bi bruikin aen appropriate pronoon *The wifie that's hoose gat burnt*, *the wumman that her dochter gat mairit*; *the men that thair boat wis tint*.

The thrid adjecteeve/adverb *yon*/*yonder*, *thon*/*thonder* points oot sommit that's faur fae the speaker n the leestener, *D'ye see yon*/*thon hoose ower yonder*/*thonder?* The plurals o *this* n *that* is *thae* n *thir*. Northren byleids taks *this* n *that* fer the plural ava.

Hamelt leids

Scots haes monie hamelt leids, or *byleids*. Thir include;

- Sooth Scots
- Doric
- Shetlandic
- Urban Scots (Scots as spaken in tha céties o Aiberdeen, Edinburgh, Dundee an Glesgae)
- Central Scots
- Northren Scots
- Ulster Scots (Spaken in Northren Irland an Coontie Dunnagal)

See foreby

- IPA chairt fer Scots
- Scots Language Centre

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